

Range extension of the Red-fan Parrot *Deroptyus accipitrinus* in Amazonian Brazil

by Leo Joseph

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On 9 February 1986, at c. 1 km from the settlement of Jaçiparaná at the crossing of the Rio Jaçiparaná, a right-bank tributary of the Rio Madeira, c. 60 km SW of Porto Vêlho, Rondônia, Brazil, (Figs. 1, 2) I watched 3 *Deroptyus accipitrinus* for one hour. The locality is c. 720 km NW of Juruena and c. 200 km SW of the confluence of the Rio Jiparaná and Rio Madeira.

Distinctive features were the short black primaries, green wings, rump and tail, the latter seeming to have a dark terminal band; purple and blue underparts and hindneck; head ground colour brown, heavily streaked pale cream, especially on the crown; frons and lores blackish, iris creamy. In size they were about that of an *Amazona* parrot but noticeably less stocky. No other parrot with conspicuously purple and blue underparts is known to occur in Amazonian Brazil, while the green upperparts, pale iris and raised nuchal ruff seen momentarily in one individual once, further render the identification secure. Indeed the crown being heavily streaked with pale cream is indicative of the subspecies *D. a. fuscifrons*, which occurs south of the Amazon (Forshaw 1977). At the time, I did not consider the sighting exceptional and so made no further notes.

The habitat in the immediate area was flooded forest. Nearby areas could be described as disturbed terra firma rainforest with scattered areas of land being used for agriculture. The birds were feeding in an unidentified tree growing in the waters of the Rio Jaçiparaná, stripping the outer, dark covering of the leaf petioles. Evidently, they were eating this dark covering because only the inner, light-coloured parts of the petioles were seen falling to the river below.



Figure 1. Map of northern South America showing the distribution of *D. accipitrinus* based on Forshaw (1977). The locality of the sighting reported here is indicated thus \blacklozenge . The boxed region is shown in more detail in Figure 2.

first record of the species from the State of Rondônia and only c. 100 km from Bolivia, opening up the possibility that *D. accipitrinus* occurs in the northern, Amazonian parts of that country.

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Notes on the status and ecology of the Ogea Flycatcher *Mayrornis versicolor*

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The sole collection of the Ogea Flycatcher *Mayrornis versicolor* was made by the Whitney South Sea Expedition during its visit to Ogea in Fiji's southern Lau Group (19°10'S, 178°25'W), 26 Jul-4 Aug 1924. It was subsequently described by Mayr (1933).

Since that visit there have been no reports of any ornithologist visiting Ogea and the absence of any contemporary knowledge of this flycatcher's status was giving rise for concern. In addition, Ogea has suffered damage from 4 tropical cyclones in recent years (1973, 1975, 1979, 1985), but perhaps most disturbing has been the possibility of exploitation of Ogea's proven phosphate resources (Ministry of Lands, Energy & Mineral Resources, Fiji Government). Of considerable further interest was the overall status of the Ogea Flycatcher in view of its suspected